Building a Library Mobile Website

Ken MacAlpine
Who am I

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• Reformed Civil Engineer
• Game Developer turned mobile developer
• Graduate of USQ Science + Engineering
• Gaming - Graphics – Software Engineering

The Team Members:
Sam Moffatt
The Brief

• Development of a USQ Library Mobile Service
• Determine the features needed
• Source of Information
• Content configured for mobile devices
• Provision of existing services
• Availability of content and services
• Wish list
The Dream

- Extend access to content and services
- RefChatter
- VuFind for mobile
- MyLibrary for loans fines
- Mobile version of Access all Databases
- Find a book
- Lectures
Attempt 1 Dashcode

- Dashcode, Xcode
- App vs Webpage

- Native Application installed on iPhone
- Web Application runs in the browser

http://m.library.usq.edu.au
Dashcode

Building using Parts Library
Lists and Navigation

http://m.library.usq.edu.au
XML Web Feed

An interface to display the opening hours

http://m.library.usq.edu.au
uMobile Stages

http://m.library.usq.edu.au
VuFind

Search tool that provides a simple, flexible and customisable interface

http://m.library.usq.edu.au
Rebuild from scratch

A mobile version of the Library website considered better option

Maintenance

http://m.library.usq.edu.au
Using Joomla

Joomla! an open source content management system

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![Joomla Image]

**Menu Manager**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Menu Item(s)</th>
<th># Published</th>
<th># Unpublished</th>
<th># Trash</th>
<th># Modules</th>
<th>ID</th>
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[http://m.library.usq.edu.au](http://m.library.usq.edu.au)
## Joomla in action

### Menu Item Manager: [mobile]

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<tr>
<th>#</th>
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<th>Default</th>
<th>Published</th>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Access Level</th>
<th>Type</th>
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<td>Public</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Articles » Article</td>
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<tr>
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<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Library Contact / Hours</td>
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<td>✔</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Articles » Article</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Ask for Help</td>
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<td>✔</td>
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<td>Public</td>
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<td>✔</td>
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<td>Articles » Article</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

http://m.library.usq.edu.au
Joomla in action

Title: Placing requests
Alias: placing-requests
Section: Main
Category: Borrowing

<p>This is done via a <a href="http://lib5.usq.edu.au/portal/engine/VDXaction=LoginPage">DocEx</a>, the USQ Library's online loan and photocopy request system.</p>
<p>If an item is on loan to another person you can place a request for that</p>

http://m.library.usq.edu.au
A new dream

- Managed content
- Update control
- New services
- News and Blogs

http://m.library.usq.edu.au
Similar projects
University of Michigan

http://m.library.usq.edu.au
Reskin

- Branding
- Simplicity
- Viewport

http://m.library.usq.edu.au
Joomla Reskin

- Reskin with Joomla tools

http://m.library.usq.edu.au
VuFind changes

- Search
- Show on Map
Resources

- Show on Map
- EBSCO Host
- Site maps
Lessons Learned

• research is important and useful with tools
• need to be more agile with tool selection however
• an easily skinnable interface makes life easier
• integration with existing services to leverage more flexibility
• build on existing systems where possible to reduce requirement for time to live
Where to from here

• Refinement and improvement in functionality for VuFind
• Better integration of different systems to make the mobile experience more consistent
• Transporting non-mobile inflexible systems to be more flexible
• Integrating iTunes U into current lecture recording system